

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Office Action. Applicant submits the present application is in form for allowance for at least the reasons discussed below.

The Finality of the Office Action Should be Withdrawn:

The Final Action asserts that the Action has been made final because "Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action." Office Action, p. 6. Applicant respectfully disagrees. In particular, all of the minor amendments to the claims in the previous Amendment were directed to claim objections in the previous Office Action. No claim amendments were made to overcome claim rejections based on the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of the finality of the Final Action.

The Section 101 Rejections:

Claims 13, 15-23, 25, 27-28 and 30-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to un-patentable subject matter based on a reference in the specification to a transmission media. Office Action, p. 2. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Section 101 rejection as obviated in light of the amendment to the specification above.

The Prior Art Rejections:

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-13, 15-23 and 25-31 stand rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over United States Patent No. 6,466,783 to Dahm *et al.* ("Dahm"). Office Action, p. 2.

Independent Claims 1, 13 and 25 Are Patentable:

In rejecting independent Claim 1, among other things, the Office Action asserts, among other things, that Dahm discloses determining whether a protocol of a received request is wireless or wired (or at least "specifically specifies the use of both wired and wireless

networks"). Final Action, p. 3. Dahm also allegedly teaches receiving a user access request for a "network password and/or account privileges management self-service application" and selective transmission of a responsive query including a challenge question. Final Action, p. 3. As will be described more fully below, Dahm contains no such teachings, it merely describes an interface provided by a network provider of mobile terminal wireless services to allow a user of a mobile terminal using the services to efficiently access/modify those services from the mobile terminal.

As described in Dahm, mobile service providers are challenged in providing cost-effective customer service to subscribers, particularly as conventional approaches, like automated interactive voice response (IVR) may use too much expensive "airtime" when accessed over the wireless network. Dahm, Col. 1, lines 21-38. As such, Dahm provides "a mechanism that allows mobile subscribers to easily access the mobile subscriber account services." Dahm, Col. 1, lines 21-38. As described in Dahm, "each of client devices serviced by server device 200 has a unique device ID that corresponds to a respective user account in server device 200." Dahm, Col. 6, lines 45-48. In other words, because the access by the mobile terminal is limited to mobile subscribed account services for that mobile terminal, the access by the mobile terminal is self-validating as the service is assigned to the device by a unique device ID contained in communications to the mobile service provider. Access to the service is further described with reference to the flowchart of Figures 6A and 6B of Dahm as follows:

To prevent possible unauthorized access to the user account with respect to the client device, an account manager in the server device, at 606, proceeds with an **access verification** that may include a verification of the request by, for example, **comparing the device identification from the client device with a corresponding device identification in the user account**. If the device identifications are matched, the access is permitted at 608. Further, if necessary, a secure session may be established by exchanging encryption keys from both sides. (emphasis added)

Dahm, Col. 10, lines 35-45. As such, not only does Dahm fail to disclose "selectively transmitting a responsive query including a challenge question to validate the user access request" as recited in independent Claim 1, it teaches away from such an approach as it

validates access based on a device ID, not prompted inputs from a user of the device. Accordingly, the rejections of Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom should be withdrawn for at least these reasons.

Furthermore, as with the previously applied Bansal reference, Dahm fails to disclose a password and/or account privileges management self-service access method. As is detailed above, Dahm contains no discussions of passwords. Furthermore, as discussed in Applicant's last amendment and the documents submitted therewith:

As is clear from the definitions for "privileges (referring to access privileges)" in the Microsoft Computer Dictionary (copy of excerpts attached) and the use of this term, for example, in the publication, DoD 5200.28-STD, "Department of Defense Trusted Computer System Evaluation Criteria" (printout of excerpts of this and other webpages using the term attached), "privileges" refer to security related features of what a user account may access, not to what they choose to access using those privileges.

Amendment mailed September 13, 2007, p. 9. In contrast, as with Bansal, Dahm merely relates to access to/selection of service options that the subscriber presumably already had privileges to use. Thus, none of the accessed subscriber services discussed in Dahm would suggest use of the system of Dahm in connection with a password and/or account **privileges** management self service application. Accordingly, the rejections of Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom should also be withdrawn for at least these reasons.

Finally, while the Final Action is correct that Dahm does mention both wired and wireless networks (landnet 100 and ainet 102, Figure 1), Applicant is unable to find any discussion of allowing access to user accounts responsive to requests from the landnet 100. In fact, as the verification of authorized access is only described as being based on the unique device ID of the mobile device 106, Dahm teaches away from allowing requests received from landnet 100, as the described access methodology would be inoperative. Thus, as only wireless protocol requests are received, Dahm, if anything, teaches away from "determining whether a protocol of the received request is a wireless or wired protocol" as also recited in independent Claim 1. Accordingly, the rejections of Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom should also be withdrawn for at least these reasons.

Independent Claims 13 and 25 contain corresponding recitations. Accordingly, the rejections of independent Claims 13 and 25 and the claims depending therefrom should be withdrawn for at least substantially similar reasons.

The Dependent Claims:

The dependent claims are patentable at least based on the patentability of the independent claims from which they depend. In addition, various of the dependent claims are also separately patentable. However, the rejections of the dependent claims provide substantially no information other than repeating claim recitations and column and line citations to portions of Dahm that allegedly disclose those recitations. As would be expected from the arguments regarding patentability of the independent claims above, Applicant can find substantially no support in the cited sections for the alleged teachings found therein. For example, dependent Claims 29-31 are rejected based on column 10, line 29 of Dahm. Final Action, p. 5. This line of Dahm, in its entirety, states " 93845823 is included." This excerpt clearly does not relate to a challenge question, nonetheless the particular challenge questions detailed in these dependent claims. At most, the numbers may relate to a telephone number, without any context of a challenge question or a response thereto. Similarly, in rejecting dependent Claims 26-28, column 10, lines 30-51 is alleged to disclose "a network password management self-service application," even though the term password does not even appear in Dahm based on an electronic search of the USPTO database text version of Dahm. Final Action, p. 5.

Accordingly, should the rejections be maintained, Applicant requests further explanation of how the system of Dahm described therein allegedly discloses the recitations of the dependent claims, particularly as all of these claims are rejected as anticipated.

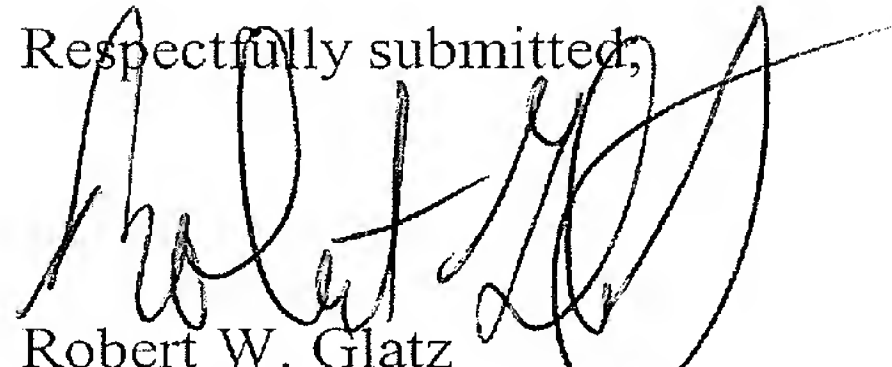
Conclusion

In light of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the above-entitled application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would

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expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

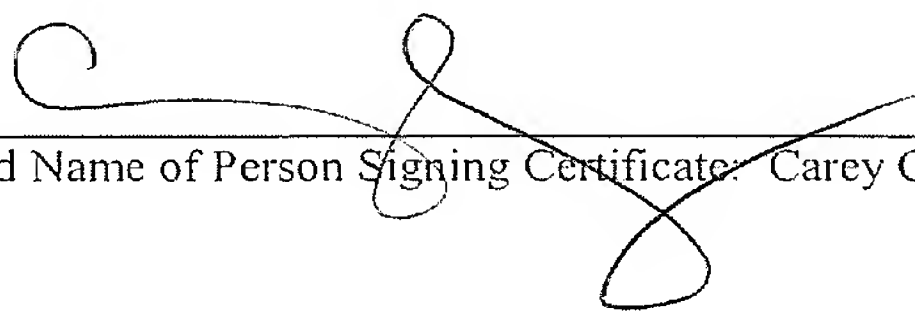


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